



TO: Kevin J. Martin, FCC Chairman
FROM: Judy Moran, Willowick City Council President
DATE: October 3, 2007
RE: *A Special City Council Resolution* urging Time Warner Cable to negotiate a solution for the NFL Network

Dear Chairman Martin,

I have attached to this letter a Willowick City Council *Special Resolution* that passed on October 2, 2007 by a unanimous 7-0 vote. We feel that devoted football fans in Willowick deserve access to year-round football programming. Providers such as DirecTV, DISH, and AT&T U-Verse have all agreed to carry the NFL Network on basic tier programming; Time Warner Cable, however, has been offered the same fee structure as the aforementioned carriers, but still refuses to carry the NFL Network.

Time Warner Cable is the single largest cable provider in the state of Ohio, and its presence in Willowick is, likewise, substantial. We therefore would urge you to carefully review and consider this resolution, as we feel it represents the views of a large proportion of our residents.

Please respond to me as soon as you can. I can be reached at 440-585-3700 or jmoran@cityofwillowick.com. Thank you in advance for your time.

Sincerely,

Judy Moran
President, Willowick City Council

Richard J. Bonde
Mayor, City of Willowick

CC: Ohio Governor Ted Strickland;
CC: Director Kimberly Zurz, Ohio Department of Commerce
CC: Ohio State Sen. Timothy Grendell;
CC: Ohio State Rep. Lorraine M. Fende;

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION URGING TIME-WARNER CABLE COMPANY TO NEGOTIATE A SOLUTION FOR THE NFL NETWORK

WHEREAS, the National Football League is the most popular sports entertainment programming in the nation, with more than 100 million viewers tuning into an NFL game each week; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 70% of team fans nationwide live outside of their team's home media market, with hundreds of thousands of Cleveland Browns fans supporting their team throughout the state of Ohio and across the country including the Browns Backers clubs world wide; and

WHEREAS, a dispute between cable television providers and the NFL Network prevented fans outside the home team market from viewing the rival Pittsburgh Steelers play the Cleveland Browns game last season, and that ongoing dispute endangers the Browns viewership for future games being broadcast on the NFL Network; and

WHEREAS, the cost of carrying the NFL Network is two cents per day per subscriber, making it a tremendous value; and

WHEREAS, Time Warner Cable has thus far refused to offer the NFL Network as a part of its broad programming package like its competitors DirecTV and Dish Network do; and

WHEREAS, the NFL Network not only offers eight games this season, but other popular year-round programming including insider access to the Hall of Fame ceremonies in Canton, exclusive Browns mini-camp and training camp coverage, extensive NFL Scouting Combine and NFL Draft access, plus a college football bowl game that could feature an Ohio team and/or a regional Big 10 team; and

WHEREAS, while the NFL Network offers only eight National Football League games per season, it also provides coverage of college football bowl games including some of which may be teams from the state of Ohio.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOWICK, LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

Section 1. The Mayor and Council of the City of Willowick hereby respectfully urges Time Warner Cable to negotiate a solution with the NFL Network in time for the late-season games being carried by the network for the benefit of the fans.

Section 2. If the private corporations are unable to resolve this matter to the benefit of the fans, that the Legislature, the Ohio Director of Commerce and appropriate federal regulatory authorities intervene and resolve this matter for the good of interested viewers.

Section 3. All formal actions of this Council concerning the passage of this Special Resolution were adopted in an open meeting, and that all deliberations of this Council, or any of its Committees, which resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 3.12 of the Charter of the City of Willowick, and section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, welfare and dignity of the residents of the City of Willowick.

WHEREFORE, this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage by Council and approval by the Mayor.

Adopted by Council: Oct. 2, 2007

Judy Moran
Judy Moran, Council President

Attest: Kathy Russo
Kathy Russo, Clerk of Council

Approved by Mayor: Oct. 2, 2007

Richard J. Bonde
Richard J. Bonde, Mayor

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Kathy Russo, Clerk of Council
of the City of Willowick, Ohio, hereby certify that
the foregoing is a true copy of Special Res.
No. _____ passed by Council on October 2,
20 07

Kathy Russo
Clerk of Council